

# ALLAN GRAY

## ALLAN GRAY BALANCED FUND

**Fund managers:** Ian Liddle, Andrew Lapping, Duncan Artus, Jacques Plaut, Simon Raubenheimer, Ruan Stander.  
(Most foreign assets are invested in Orbis funds.) **Inception date:** 1 October 1999

### Fund description and summary of investment policy

The Fund invests in a mix of shares, bonds, property, commodities and cash. The Fund may buy foreign assets up to a maximum of 25% of the Fund (with an additional 5% for African ex-SA investments). The Fund typically invests the bulk of its foreign allowance in a mix of funds managed by Orbis Investment Management Limited, our offshore investment partner. The maximum net equity exposure of the Fund is 75% and we may use exchange-traded derivative contracts on stock market indices to reduce net equity exposure from time to time. The Fund is managed to comply with the investment limits governing retirement funds. Returns are likely to be less volatile than those of an equity-only fund.

**ASISA unit trust category:** South African - Multi Asset - High Equity

### Fund objective and benchmark

The Fund aims to create long-term wealth for investors within the constraints governing retirement funds. It aims to outperform the average return of similar funds without assuming any more risk. The Fund's benchmark is the market value-weighted average return of funds in the South African – Multi Asset – High Equity category (excluding the Allan Gray Balanced Fund).

### How we aim to achieve the Fund's objective

We seek to buy shares at a discount to their intrinsic value. We thoroughly research companies to assess their intrinsic value from a long-term perspective. This long-term perspective enables us to buy shares which are shunned by the stock market because of their unexciting or poor short-term prospects, but which are relatively attractively priced if one looks to the long term. If the stock market offers few attractive shares we may increase the Fund's weighting to alternative assets such as bonds, property, commodities and cash, or we may partially hedge the Fund's stock market exposure. By varying the Fund's exposure to these different asset classes over time, we seek to enhance the Fund's long-term returns and to manage its risk. The Fund's bond and money market investments are actively managed.

### Suitable for those investors who

- Seek steady long-term capital growth
- Are comfortable with taking on some risk of market fluctuation and potential capital loss, but typically less than that of an equity fund
- Wish to invest in a unit trust that complies with retirement fund investment limits
- Typically have an investment horizon of more than three years

### Minimum investment amounts

Minimum lump sum per investor account	<b>R20 000</b>
Additional lump sum	<b>R500</b>
Minimum debit order*	<b>R500</b>

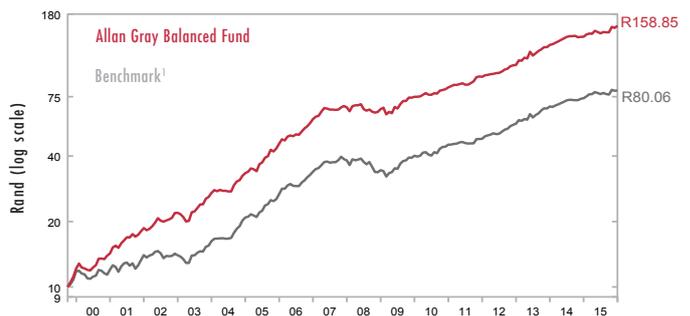
\*Only available to investors with a South African bank account.

### Fund information on 31 December 2015

Fund size	<b>R111.1bn</b>
Number of units	<b>779 645 413</b>
Price (net asset value per unit)	<b>R96.04</b>
Class	<b>A</b>

### Performance net of all fees and expenses

Value of R10 invested at inception with all distributions reinvested



% Returns	Fund	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	CPI inflation <sup>2</sup>
<b>Unannualised:</b>			
Since inception	1 488.5	700.6	147.3
<b>Annualised:</b>			
Since inception	18.6	13.7	5.8
Latest 10 years	13.3	11.6	6.1
Latest 5 years	14.0	12.1	5.5
Latest 3 years	14.9	12.4	5.3
Latest 2 years	10.7	8.8	5.3
Latest 1 year	12.3	8.4	4.8
Year-to-date (unannualised)	12.3	8.4	5.0
<b>Risk measures (since inception)</b>			
Maximum drawdown <sup>3</sup>	-15.4	-20.5	n/a
Percentage positive months <sup>4</sup>	70.8	69.2	n/a
Annualised monthly volatility <sup>5</sup>	9.1	9.3	n/a
Highest annual return <sup>6</sup>	46.1	41.9	n/a
Lowest annual return <sup>6</sup>	-8.3	-16.7	n/a

1. The market value-weighted average return of funds in the South African – Multi Asset – High Equity category (excluding the Allan Gray Balanced Fund). From inception to 31 January 2013 the benchmark was the market value-weighted average return of the funds in both the Domestic Asset Allocation Medium Equity and Domestic Asset Allocation Variable Equity sectors of the previous ASISA Fund Classification Standard, excluding the Allan Gray Balanced Fund. Source: Morningstar, performance as calculated by Allan Gray as at 31 December 2015.

2. This is based on the latest numbers published by INET BFA as at 30 November 2015.

3. Maximum percentage decline over any period. The maximum drawdown occurred from 20 May 2008 to 27 October 2008 and maximum benchmark drawdown occurred from 20 May 2008 to 10 March 2009. Drawdown is calculated on the total return of the Fund/benchmark (i.e. including income).

4. The percentage of calendar months in which the Fund produced a positive monthly return since inception.

5. The standard deviation of the Fund's monthly return. This is a measure of how much an investment's return varies from its average over time.

6. These are the highest or lowest consecutive 12-month returns since inception. This is a measure of how much the Fund and the benchmark returns have varied per rolling 12-month period. The Fund's highest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 30 April 2006 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 30 April 2006. The Fund's lowest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 28 February 2009 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 28 February 2009. All rolling 12-month figures for the Fund and the benchmark are available from our Client Service Centre on request.

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### Meeting the Fund objective

The Fund has created wealth for its long-term investors. Since inception and over the latest 10 and five-year periods, the Fund has outperformed its benchmark, and its returns have exceeded CPI inflation by a significant margin. The Fund experiences periods of underperformance in pursuit of its objective of creating long-term wealth for investors, without taking on greater risk of loss than the average balanced fund. The maximum drawdown and lowest annual return numbers, in the 'Performance net of all fees and expenses' table, show that the Fund has successfully reduced downside risk in periods of negative market returns.

### Income distributions for the last 12 months

To the extent that income earned in the form of dividends and interest exceeds expenses in the Fund, the Fund will distribute any surplus biannually.	30 Jun 2015	31 Dec 2015
<b>Cents per unit</b>	<b>99.3770</b>	<b>104.2709</b>

### Annual management fee

Allan Gray charges a fee based on the net asset value of the Fund excluding the portion invested in Orbis funds. The fee rate is calculated daily by comparing the Fund's total performance over the last two years, to that of the benchmark.

**Fee for performance equal to the Fund's benchmark:** 1.00% p.a. excl. VAT

For each percentage of two-year performance above or below the benchmark we add or deduct 0.1%, subject to the following limits:

**Maximum fee:** 1.50% p.a. excl. VAT

**Minimum fee:** 0.50% p.a. excl. VAT

This means that Allan Gray shares in approximately 20% of annualised performance relative to the benchmark.

A portion of the Fund may be invested in Orbis funds. Orbis charges performance-based fees within these funds that are calculated based on each Orbis fund's performance relative to its own benchmark.

### Total expense ratio (TER) and Transaction costs

The annual management fees charged by both Allan Gray and Orbis are included in the TER. The TER is a measure of the actual expenses incurred by the Fund over a 3-year period (annualised). Since Fund returns are quoted after deduction of these expenses, the TER should not be deducted from the published returns (refer to page 4 for further information). Transaction costs are disclosed separately.

TER and Transaction costs breakdown for the 3-year period ending 31 December 2015	%
<b>Total expense ratio</b>	<b>1.44</b>
Fee for benchmark performance	1.07
Performance fees	0.22
Other costs excluding transaction costs	0.02
VAT	0.13
<b>Transaction costs (incl. VAT)</b>	<b>0.07</b>
<b>Total investment charge</b>	<b>1.51</b>

### Top 10 share holdings on 31 December 2015 (SA and Foreign) (updated quarterly)<sup>8</sup>

Company	% of portfolio
British American Tobacco	7.5
Sasol	5.5
SABMiller	4.0
Standard Bank	3.2
Old Mutual	2.4
Naspers <sup>7</sup>	2.1
Reinet Investments SCA	1.9
Remgro	1.9
NetEase	1.5
Sappi	1.4
<b>Total (%)</b>	<b>31.3</b>

7. Including Naspers Stub Certificates.

### Asset allocation on 31 December 2015<sup>8</sup>

Asset Class	Total	South Africa	Africa ex-SA	Foreign ex-Africa
Net equity	60.0	45.4	0.7	13.9
Hedged equity	11.5	1.7	0.0	9.8
Property	1.7	0.9	0.0	0.8
Commodity-linked	5.5	5.5	0.0	0.0
Bonds	12.5	10.9	1.0	0.6
Money market and bank deposits	8.8	7.1	0.1	1.6
<b>Total (%)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>71.5</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>26.7<sup>9</sup></b>

8. Underlying holdings of Orbis funds are included on a look-through basis.

9. The Fund is above its foreign exposure limit due to market value movements.

### Since inception, the Fund's month-end net equity exposure has varied as follows:

Minimum	<b>49.3% (February 2000)</b>
Average	<b>62.3%</b>
Maximum	<b>72.7% (July 2004)</b>

Note: There may be slight discrepancies in the totals due to rounding.

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### Fund manager quarterly commentary as at 31 December 2015

The *black swan* is a powerful metaphor first used by Latin poets long ago and more recently revived by modern financial writers, such as NN Taleb. The meaning of the metaphor has evolved over the centuries, especially since we discovered that black swans actually do exist. In today's financial parlance, most people regard a black swan event as a big surprise with a major effect, which people then try to rationalise in hindsight.

The summary removal of South Africa's respected minister of finance, Nhlanelo Nene, on 9 December would probably fit most people's definition of a black swan event. It certainly surprised us. But the real question for investors is how best to approach the risk of such events.

We do not believe that we have any special ability to predict them. So we do not try to. But this does not mean that we are not accountable to you for the impact of black swan events on your portfolio. We cannot throw our hands in the air and use a black swan as an excuse.

By giving us a broad asset allocation mandate in the Balanced Fund, you have delegated the responsibility for managing the risk of black swans to us.

So how do we try and manage the risk of unpredictable events?

The answer is to invest in a diversified portfolio of assets which are undervalued by the market, which are not priced for perfection and which present favourable odds for a rewarding investment return. The prices of these assets normally prove more robust to black swans, than those of overvalued assets.

This approach does not guarantee that we will successfully ride out every unexpected event. Oil falling below US\$40 has hurt Sasol's share price and our performance over the last 15 months. But we do believe that this approach will allow us to see out more black swans than not and to deliver pleasing returns over the long term.

Although with the benefit of hindsight one could always have been even better positioned, we are pleased with the Fund's performance this quarter in light of the Nene debacle. We have explained the reasoning for our full foreign exposure in previous commentaries, and this was well rewarded in the quarter and indeed for the whole year. By maintaining a low duration on our fixed interest exposure, and keeping a low property exposure, we have sacrificed yield for a number of years, but this protected us well from the steep increase in interest rates in December.

The Fund's large holdings in JSE-listed multinationals British American Tobacco and SABMiller performed well. We have been trimming these positions and investing the proceeds into selected South African financial companies and resource and other exporting companies. The market started to recognise the potential we see in some South African export businesses such as Sappi.

We cannot reliably predict whether any black swans will visit us in 2016. Global equity market indices appear fully priced, so there is certainly a risk of negative returns from global equities. But you can rest assured that we continue to seek the best investment opportunities to deliver pleasing long-term returns on your capital.

*Commentary contributed by Ian Liddle*

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### Notes for consideration

#### Management Company

Allan Gray Unit Trust Management (RF) Proprietary Limited (the 'Management Company') is registered as a management company under the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act 45 of 2002, in terms of which it operates 10 unit trust portfolios under the Allan Gray Unit Trust Scheme, and is supervised by the Financial Services Board ('FSB'). The Management Company is incorporated under the laws of South Africa and has been approved by the regulatory authority of Botswana to market its unit trusts in Botswana, however it is not supervised or licensed in Botswana. Allan Gray Proprietary Limited (the 'Investment Manager'), an authorised financial services provider, is the appointed Investment Manager of the Management Company and is a member of the Association for Savings & Investment South Africa (ASISA). The trustee/custodian of the Allan Gray Unit Trust Scheme is Rand Merchant Bank, a division of FirstRand Bank Limited. The trustee/custodian can be contacted at RMB Custody and Trustee Services: Tel: +27 (0)87 736 1732 or [www.rmb.co.za](http://www.rmb.co.za)

#### Performance

Collective Investment Schemes in Securities (unit trusts or funds) are generally medium- to long-term investments. The value of units may go down as well as up and past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Movements in exchange rates may also cause the value of underlying international investments to go up or down. The Management Company does not provide any guarantee regarding the capital or the performance of the Fund. Performance figures are provided by the Investment Manager and are for lump sum investments with income distributions reinvested. Actual investor performance may differ as a result of the investment date, the date of reinvestment and dividend withholding tax.

#### Fund mandate

The Fund may be closed to new investments at any time in order to be managed according to its mandate. Unit trusts are traded at ruling prices and can engage in borrowing and scrip lending. The Fund may borrow up to 10% of its market value to bridge insufficient liquidity.

#### Unit price

Unit trust prices are calculated on a net asset value basis, which is the total market value of all assets in the Fund including any income accruals and less any permissible deductions from the Fund divided by the number of units in issue. Forward pricing is used and fund valuations take place at approximately 16:00 each business day. Purchase and redemption requests must be received by the Management Company by 14:00 each business day to receive that day's price. Unit trust prices are available daily on [www.allangray.co.za](http://www.allangray.co.za)

#### Fees

Permissible deductions may include management fees, brokerage, Securities Transfer Tax (STT), auditor's fees, bank charges and trustee fees. A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions is available on request from Allan Gray.

#### Total expense ratio (TER) and Transaction costs

The total expense ratio (TER) is the annualised percentage of the Fund's average assets under management that has been used to pay the Fund's actual expenses over the past three years. The TER includes the annual management fees that have been charged (both the fee at benchmark and any performance component charged), VAT and other expenses like audit and trustee fees. Transaction costs (including brokerage, Securities Transfer Tax [STT], STRATE and FSB Investor Protection Levy and VAT thereon) are shown separately. Transaction costs are a necessary cost in administering the Fund and impact Fund returns. They should not be considered in isolation as returns may be impacted by many other factors over time including market returns, the type of financial product, the investment decisions of the investment manager and the TER. Since Fund returns are quoted after the deduction of these expenses, the TER and Transaction costs should not be deducted again from published returns. As unit trust expenses vary, the current TER cannot be used as an indication of future TERs. A higher TER ratio does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return. Instead, when investing, the investment objective of the Fund should be aligned with the investor's objective and compared against the performance of the Fund. The TER and other funds' TERs should then be used to evaluate whether the Fund performance offers value for money. The sum of the TER and Transaction costs is shown as the Total investment charge.

#### Compliance with Regulation 28

The Fund is managed to comply with Regulation 28 of the Pension Funds Act. Exposures in excess of the limits will be corrected immediately, except where due to a change in the fair value or characteristic of an asset, e.g. market value fluctuations, in which case they will be corrected within a reasonable time period. The Management Company does not monitor compliance by retirement funds with section 19(4) of the Pension Funds Act (item 6 of Table 1 to Regulation 28).

#### Foreign exposure

This fund may invest in foreign funds managed by Orbis Investment Management Limited, our offshore investment partner.